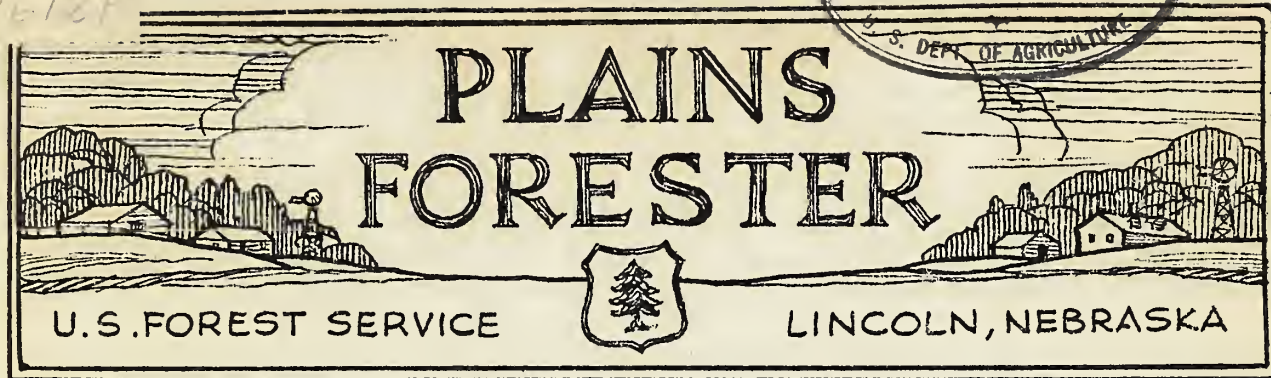


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COORDINATED EFFORT

Back in the timber country I was once asked to select from the photographic records a good picture of a fire lookout tower to send to Washington for use in Congressional hearings. There were about forty good photographs of building construction, i.e., the towers themselves, but all missed the main point -- "eyes of the Forest Service" overlooking and protecting National Forest resources. The background in the pictures was either a slide rock, a burned area, or sky. The photographers - or the foresters who should have accompanied them - had lost sight of their main objectives. Photography or building construction, although only an incidental step toward the major objectives of the Forest Service, had become an end in itself.

We might well ask ourselves in everything we do -- does it contribute toward our main objectives? If not, why are we fooling with it? Research, cost accounting, nursery production, administrative procedure, public relations, equipment and improvements, etc., are not entities in themselves, but prescribed as various means to definite ends. These specialized lines of work will be very much in the foreground to those who are invested with their responsibility; but in all cases, clearly focused in the background must be those major objectives, hovering over and justifying the immediate jobs.

- D. S. Olson, R.O.

COOPERATION A MONEY-SAVER IN RODENT CONTROL

An individual farmer working without the cooperation of his neighbors is compelled to carry on almost continuous poisoning operations, if he is to control the jackrabbits that constantly move to his farm from adjacent premises. Should his neighbors on all sides join with him, however, in simultaneously controlling the rabbits on the whole group of farms, it would be much longer before another invasion of these rodents would occur from the outside. Still further protection would be gained, of course, if a greater number of farmers would unite in cooperative campaigns to free large areas of contiguous farm land. A community cooperative campaign, if carefully planned and systematically conducted, will be found to be the most effective means of controlling jackrabbits in farming communities. In addition, cooperative effort eliminates the cost of repeated poisoning of fields and plantings, and a further saving also is possible in cooperative buying of supplies. We, as an agricultural agency, should endeavor to stimulate the farmers in the areas in which we work to form cooperative organizations for the control of rodents destructive to farm forestry.

Bounties have been paid by counties in many sections in an effort to control jackrabbits, but this method has not proved generally successful. It also usually results in a needless destruction of rabbits in sections where the animals are of little or no economic importance, thus defeating the primary objective, which is to prevent injury to tree plantations and cultivated crops. It has been shown by actual test in several counties that a small proportion of the funds required for the payment of bounties, when devoted to the purchase of supplies for poisoning and hunting of jackrabbits on purely farming areas, has resulted in a far greater saving of crops than has the bounty system.

Our underlying policy with regard to injurious species of rodents should be one of control rather than complete eradication. We should not embark upon a general extermination program but, with every proper consideration for conservation interests, it should have as its objective in this field the adequate local control so that the burdensome losses suffered by farmers on this Project may be reduced to a minimum and beneficial forms of wildlife protected from undue destruction. The best control program is that which interferes least with the orderly relationship of natural species, but which at the same time helps to assure success to the agriculture, range management and forestry, on which man depends for his own existence.

- Carroll F. Orendurff, Nebr.

A GOOD EDITOR

A good editor is one who has never made a mistake; who has never offended anyone; who is always right; who can ride two horses at the same time he is straddling a fence with both ears to the ground; who always says the right thing at the right time; who always picks the right horse as well as the right politician to win; who never has to apologize; who has no enemies, and who has worlds of prestige with all classes, creeds and races. That is all an editor has to do to be rated as a good editor. There never has been a good editor.

- The Northlander
(From R.9 "Daily Contact")

WHY PLANT SHELTERBELTS?

The primary purposes of shelterbelt planting in the Prairie States are to prevent soil blowing and to prevent crops from being blown out or burnt by hot winds.

One example of the value of shelterbelt protection was shown this summer on a farm occupying a full section in the north part of Stafford County. The wheat on the north side of a 56-year-old shelterbelt one-half mile long, running east and west through the center of the east half of the section, yielded 16 bushels to the acre, and on the south side yielded 15 bushels. A field of wheat on the west half of the section, not protected by the shelterbelt, blew out completely and was listed up before harvest.

In addition, shelterbelt plantings will greatly aid in the conservation of moisture, reduce water erosion, protect livestock, add to the scenic value of the country, and protect wildlife, especially birds, which we need to destroy grasshoppers and other insects. However, there are multiple values that may be added to these protective plantings, such as fuel, fence posts, and other timber products, and recreational values.

When we combine these other purposes, the farmer must have more than the minimum number of rows essential for wind protection. For wood products, he must have extra rows that may be removed in later years without affecting the protective value of his shelterbelt. For social values, he must have sufficient variety to give a pleasing appearance and to provide a sanctuary within itself. He must have variety to provide fruit and nuts, so scarce in this Plains region.

Few farmers are interested in trees for a single purpose, but nearly all of them cherish tree growth on their farms because of their multiple uses. Obviously when we can combine most of these values in one planting such as our seven-rod shelterbelts, there is economy in the land used, in the cost per established tree, and in the time devoted by the farmer to the maintenance of such a combination planting.

The farmers in Kansas, with the cooperation of the Forest Service, have planted 1,145 miles of such shelterbelt plantings since 1935.

This conservation program is increasing in popularity among the farmers and business men alike, to such an extent that the Forest Service is making plans to supply trees and plant 1,000 miles more of such shelterbelt plantings in Kansas next spring.

- Glenn W. Spring, Kans.

NURSERY EXPERIMENT AT MANHATTAN

Walter Gosnell is carrying on some original investigations in the Manhattan Nursery, with the idea of preventing a repetition of the losses he sustained this year. By allowing more room between the rows and by constructing special type spring boards, he feels that damage from the submarine activities of "hell divers" could be kept at a minimum.

- W. G. Baxter, Kans.

NATURAL HISTORY IS A PROLIFIC FIELD

You too have heard it said that when you ask dumb questions you get dumber answers.

Now Al, I don't mean that your theme of inquiry in last month's PLAINS FORESTER regarding gophers and sand rats was "squirrely," nor that what I write here lacks sense, - not gopher sense, anyway - but when you and "Slim" Engstrom can't find the solution to something you should never stick your neck out that way by inviting those Texas or Oklahoma champions to break out with a whopper and expect you to believe it.

Personally, I have yet to see my first tree-eating squirrel, but maybe they exist in North Dakota. After all, even a ground squirrel has got to eat. But when it comes to gophers (pocket gophers), these are veritable upland beaver. They cut trees down not because they like roots for dinner but only because trees can't get out of their way and the gopher is too stubborn to go around them.

Years ago the gophers got so bad on the Nebraska National Forest, and were falling so much young timber, that the Biological Survey was asked to exterminate them. Now Al, these Survey boys, if you don't know it, would push little frogs off the bank, and trapping gophers was right up their alley. This gopher business wasn't exactly like being on a gravy train, for after trapping them they had to lug all the gophers to camp so they could be counted, as a matter of record. The fellow in charge of this also had a crew of Indians poisoning prairie dogs on the Rosebud Reservation and he could come down only for a day now and then because if he stayed away longer than it took to work a barrel of mash his Indians would make strychnine whiskey out of poisoned corn. And one warm day the Supervisor rode into camp from the north when the wind was from the south-- he left a note.

After that the boys brought in only the tails. But that was where sand rats - or kangaroo rats, as we called them - should have taken cover. Not that rats destroy trees, but they have such long tails. For about this time a medical student from Iowa was hired to "control" the "gopher dicks." This boy did not know too much about gophers, sidehill gougers and such, but was anxious to make good. Neither did he know how many tails stood for a day's work, for even 15 or 20 badly withered gopher tails carried in a Bull Durham sack to camp on horseback didn't shout very loud for what it took to get them. And to be on the safe side this Iowa Whirlwind kept insisting on more tails, until one of the boys - and I think he deserves credit for trying to please - stumbled onto the fact that by stretching a kangaroo rat's tail some, shaving off the tuft at the end, and two or three other minor operations, he could make about three gopher tails and never set a trap, for a little poison dropped along some firebreak would yield a dozen or more rats next morning.

Nevertheless, even though many a kangaroo rat died a "gopher," the Nebraskan don't dare to have any more prairie fires because there are no more gopher mounds to furnish ready sand to fight fires with.

On the PSFP we still have rabbits, it seems, but that Davis yarn about turkeys versus 'hoppers gives me an idea which ought to solve the rabbit problem. But first, to substantiate Davis' theory - only it's got to be put in reverse - and if "Ed." will allow me just a little more space, I would like to explain how people went hungry once because one man could not make up his mind. It was a cold day when another would-be Nimrod and myself were wallowing through some 20 inches of loose snow after stubble duck - a bird we were forced to eat when season was closed on prairie chicken - when this other guy runs smack-dab into a whole flock of 'em. The first one got up right under his feet, and this scared him pretty badly, but he managed to pull up his gun and all but pulled the trigger when a second one got up a few feet on his left. He threw his gun on that one and I was sure he'd knock it over with the barrel, but a third broke loose behind him and he swung at that one. This went on until at least a dozen got up within spitting range and the guy swinging his gun around like a man possessed but never firing a shell. When he realized that the last bird had twisted and zig-zagged out of reach he WAS possessed, for I saw him grab his cap and throw it on the snow and blast away at it 'til there wasn't anything left but a big hole in the snow.

And I figure rabbits aren't any smarter than turkeys or chicken hunters, and by simply applying Davis' theory Corrigan fashion - all we have to do is plant so many trees that the rabbits starve to death while they are trying to make up their mind which tree to eat on first.

- M. K. Meines, Nebr.

WISCONSIN SHELTERBELT PLAN

The Wisconsin shelterbelt program was inaugurated in the summer of 1934. The spring of that year witnessed one of the most devastating sandstorms in the history of central Wisconsin. The counties most directly affected by the storm were: Waushara, Portage, Waupaca, Wood, Marquette, Adams and Juneau. Records at the Hancock experimental farm indicate that from 1921 to 1933 there has been at least one sandstorm in May and June per season but the storm of 1934 did by far the most damage. The sandy nature of the soil and the lack of natural protection by trees are the reasons for those storms in this part of the State. It was after the May 1934 sand blizzard that a large number of farmers requested of county agents in these central counties, ways and means of protecting their crops from further ravages of sand blasting.

The first planting of shelterbelts on a large scale to prevent wind erosion took place in the Spring of 1935 at which time 900,000 seedlings and transplants were distributed. Exactly 371 miles of three-row shelterbelts resulted from the planting of these trees. Additional trees have been planted every succeeding spring and fall in the counties affected by the wind erosion until to date a total of 3,600,000 have been distributed to farmers for wind protection of their farms. A total of 1,495 miles of shelterbelts have been planted to date. In 1938, 2000 farmers cooperated in planting protection on their farms. The Wisconsin Department of Conservation hopes to furnish sufficient nursery stock to complete this central Wisconsin wind-erosion control program by 1944.***Wisconsin Department of Conservation.

- R.9 "Daily Contact"

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF GOOD ORGANIZATION

The following article is taken from a paper given the American Management Association by Mr. M. C. Rorty, Vice-President of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company:

1. Definite and clean-cut responsibilities should be assigned to each executive. - Any indefiniteness in the assignment of responsibilities penalizes the conscientious employee in favor of the unscrupulous grasper for power.
2. Responsibility should always be coupled with corresponding authority. - Is necessary not only to assure that prompt action can be taken by junior officers, within the limits of their responsibilities, but also to make certain that situations that should be referred to senior officers are so referred.
3. No change should be made in the scope or responsibilities of a position without a definite understanding to that effect on the part of all persons concerned.
4. No officer or employee, occupying a single position in the organization, should be subject to definite orders from more than one source.
5. Orders should never be given subordinates over the head of a responsible officer. Rather than do this the officer in question should be supplanted. - It is the instinctive feeling of the untrained executive--of the man who has been accustomed to get action in any manner possible - that the consistent observance of this rule is wasteful of time and effort, and tends to build up a military and bureaucratic rigidity within the organization. But this fear is never felt by the thoroughly skilled executive, who takes pride in being able to secure prompt and effective action along organization lines, and who realizes that the inevitable result of giving orders over the heads of his subordinates is to create in such subordinates a feeling that they must, in self-protection, keep their own assistants relatively untrained and uninformed, and, in fact, must avoid engaging or retaining assistants of high enough caliber to endanger their own positions.
6. Criticisms of subordinates should, whenever possible, be made privately, and in no case should a subordinate be criticized in the presence of officers or employees of equal or lower rank. - Loyalty to leadership can exist only when the leader is most careful to safeguard the pride of his subordinates. A true leader may labor to reduce the excessive touchiness of the supersensitive man, but he will realize that this can only be done by careful handling. He will, furthermore, realize that the conscientious and earnest worker is always apt to be sensitive, whereas the tricky and unscrupulous individual is very apt to be thick-skinned.
7. No dispute or difference between officers or employees as to authority or responsibilities should be considered too trivial for prompt and careful adjudication. - Each such difficulty that is carefully investigated and adjusted will prevent a dozen others from arising.
8. Promotions, wage changes, and disciplinary action should always be approved by the officer immediately superior to the one directly responsible.

9. No officer or employee should ever be required, or expected, to be at the same time an assistant to, and critic of, another. - Special audits and inspections should always be made by separate representatives detailed for this purpose from the general offices.

10. Any officer whose work is subject to regular inspection should, whenever practicable, be given the assistance and facilities necessary to enable him to maintain an independent check of the quality of his work.

I can not say to what extent I agree with the author, but these rules give us all something to think about as we may have an opportunity to apply them in one capacity or another. The firm which Mr. Rorty represents ranks high and has an excellent reputation so far as satisfied employees is concerned. We all know that a satisfied employee is many times more valuable than an unsatisfied employee. As Mr. Aspenwall of the Graduate School of the University of Colorado pointed out this summer, much of the literature on Business Organization is not at all concise, because it deals with such a new field compared with most of the sciences.

- Raymond L. Buskirk, Tex.

CULTIVATING OF CONIFERS SUBJECT OF EXPERIMENT

To cultivate the conifer rows or not to cultivate them, is the question that seems to be harassing some of our cooperators. I must admit that the same question has given the foremen and me considerable trouble.

The problem has become so acute that some answer must be had, and to this end an experiment has been set up on the Valley City District.

Two shelterbelts, where the survival in the conifer row was uniformly high, were chosen. Cedar has been planted in one, pine in the other. Both have been kept as clean as the proverbial hound's tooth between the rows, but in the rows was a heavy growth of pigeon grass 12 to 14 inches high. Each of the conifer rows received the same treatment, which consisted of complete hoeing for one-third the length of the row; removal of the weeds for one foot on each side of the tree for one-third the length of the row; the remaining one-third was left "as is." Each tree in each of the two conifer rows was examined, and the average height was obtained. Continued observations are to be made at monthly intervals and the results recorded. The experiment will be closed October 15 and we hope to have some concrete evidence.

- K. W. Taylor, N.Dak.

MAYBE IT'S FISHING THAT MAKES ALL MEN KIN

When President Cleveland's second child was born, no scales could be found to weigh the baby. Finally the scales used by the President to weigh his fish were brought up from the cellar, and the child was found to weigh 25 pounds. - R.4 "Daily News."

(Editor's note to Operation: Please call the above to the attention of Bill Ihlanfeldt immediately upon his return from his Wyoming fishing trip, and before he starts to reminisce.)

BUR OAK
(*Quercus Macrocarpa* Michx.)

(This is the sixth of a series of articles by Mr. Engstrom on the principal tree species used by the Project.)

On this Project the bur oak occupies the unique position of being the longest lived, the hardiest, and from the utility standpoint one of the most desirable deciduous species we are planting. Yet in spite of these outstanding virtues it is being planted in lesser quantities than any of the other accepted major species. This paradox can be reconciled only on the basis that it is a difficult species to establish in plantations. Considering our Project as a unit, it shows perhaps the lowest survival of all broad-leaf species and for that reason there has arisen in some instances an aversion to using it in large amounts.

Bur oak is one of our truly native species, its natural range extending from North Dakota to Texas. On favorable sites along the eastern borders of the shelterbelt States; it is one of the larger trees frequently attaining a height of 60 to 80 feet or more and trunk diameters to four feet. Farther east trees 150 feet in height and six to seven feet in diameter are reported. It has a comparatively short trunk with open wide-spreading massive limbs giving the tree a rugged appearance. As one proceeds westward from the eastern boundaries of our States the tree grows smaller; on the dry, difficult upland sites dwarfing almost to the stature of a shrub, hence its common name of "shrub oak" in some areas. For shelterbelt planting the species is accorded one of the lowest height ratings of the tree species, thus occupying the position next to the conifer rows near the exterior of the belt.

Bur oak will readily adapt itself to all soil types ordinarily considered acceptable for tree growth. It will in addition grow on the driest locations classified as marginal or difficult for tree growth provided such sites are not excessively alkaline. However, the difficulties attendant to establishing the species on the more difficult sites are correspondingly greater. Therefore, until some practical method of overcoming the technical difficulties associated with successfully establishing this species has been perfected, it seems unlikely that large-scale planting of it will be undertaken except on the more favorable sites.

It is of interest that the characteristics identifying the bur oak as a long-lived tree, i.e., slow growing and tap rooted, are responsible for the lack of uniformly satisfactory results in planting the species. The oak can either be direct seeded or planted as seedlings. Both methods are occasionally successful and an analysis of the successful plantings indicates that clean cultivation and protection from rodents and insects such as grasshoppers are essential in obtaining survival. Because of its slow growth weeds readily overtop it and choke it out. Also its slow growth and comparatively sparse foliage during the seedling stage prolong in comparison to faster-growing species, the period when rodent and insect damage are most likely to be fatal. Furthermore, when planted as a seedling it frequently fails to start new root growth apparently because too much of the tap root is left in the nursery when the seedlings are undercut and pulled. The tap root problem is being investigated and it seems probable that root pruned or transplanted nursery stock will give better results.

Bur oak is also known as mossy cup oak because its acorn has a distinctive mossy or bristly fringe around the rim of the cup. Its acorn varies greatly in size throughout the range of the species. In the South it is not uncommon to find them two inches in diameter, while in the North an acorn one-half to three-fourths of an inch in diameter would be considered fair size. The large size the acorn attains in the South is a source of amazement to those familiar with the northern bur oak. The kernel is occasionally sweet enough to be considered edible by humans and undoubtedly served as an important item in the diet of early day Indians. The acorns are eagerly sought after by many small animals and some of our larger game birds such as pheasants thrive on them. Hogs and cattle are also fond of acorns and many farmers having oak woodlots graze them in the fall when the acorns drop in order to take advantage of the mast.

If intended for propagation purposes the acorns are collected as soon as ripe, treated with carbon bisulphide to kill weevils and stored in a humid atmosphere until planted. Stratification in sand is also a common practice, the important consideration whatever method is used being to prevent complete drying out of the kernel. Properly stored the acorns will germinate readily six to eight months after collection.

Bur oak wood products have numerous uses around the farm wherever wood possessing strength and durable qualities is required. Commercially it is in demand for construction work, shipbuilding, furniture, interior trim, flooring, cooperage, barrels, agricultural implements, cabinet making, tool handles, railway ties, fence posts, and fuel.

The bur oak once established is remarkably free from insect, rodent, or fungus attacks. Its ruggedness and strength make it practically immune to injury from wind, hail, or sleet. All of these features undoubtedly contribute to its longevity which equals or exceeds all other Plains species. It is truly a species to plant for posterity and as such offers a challenge and an opportunity for public projects such as ours to memorialize our work for generations to come by leaving behind us countless numbers of bur oak trees as living testimony of our efforts.

- Harold E. Engstrom, R.O.

NO WORDS WASTED

The quotation from Carl Crow's "Four Hundred Million Customers" on American business letters in a recent issue of PLAINS FORESTER was of unusual interest. After a diligent search, the following letter was the only example that could be found, (not from the Forest Service files) which was brief and to the point:

Deer Meester:

"I got your letter about what I owes you. Now you be pachent. If this wuz judgement day and you wuz no more prepared to meet your Master as I am to meet your bill, you would sure have to go to Hell. Trusting you will do this, I am, --"

L.E.Frailey in "Smooth Sailing Letters"

- V. C. Rosenwald, Kans.

THE COOPERATOR UNDER FIRE

Rube Bitner has signed for one and one-quarter miles of shelterbelt! The amazing news swept from lip to lip and house to house throughout that rich portion of the Pease River Valley just southwest of Vernon. The thrifty, solid German farmer's neighbors were aghast at his apparent folly, and soon the countryside was filled with their expressions of amazement, disgust, and sympathy.

"Oh, well," some said, "All of us make mistakes and Rube is entitled to his share." Others said, "We can't let this happen to Rube. Let's go see him. There is still time to stop him. The trees won't be planted until winter."

So they came from miles around to show their neighbor the error of his ways. Eloquently they argued, "Why, trees won't grow here, but just suppose you do get them to live, you'll be worse off than if they died. We paid \$200 an acre for land no better than yours. Just think how much cotton will grow on all that land you will have to put in trees. That belt of trees will harbor birds which will destroy your feed crop every year."

To argue their point they pointed out flocks of blackbirds and sparrows in nearby maize patches. "Sure, those birds might eat some grasshoppers, but you know as well as we do that they eat maize and that grain damage offsets the good they might do."

"Furthermore, trees will sap the ground for 30 or 40 feet outside the last row. Protection? Maybe for 50 feet, but what's the use of protecting land that tree roots have sapped to where crops won't grow? Anyway, if you want to really protect your land from blowing you can contour farm, strip crop and keep plenty of cover on the land during the winter. Your stock can feed on cover crops but not trees. That bare strip of land next to the belts where the trees sap the ground is the first place that is going to blow in your field. In a few years time instead of your farm being level, the tree belts will catch the sand and build up great mounds of sand. Then, in other places, the wind coming to the ground will whip out holes big enough to hide a herd of yearlings in. Pretty soon your land will be so uneven you can't even cultivate it. Just look at those shinnery rows down at Rayland and you'll see how your farm will look in a few years.

"Did you say 'less' insects? Listen, Rube, anybody knows grasshoppers are worse along fence rows and sagebrush, where they get protection. Now, with a big, wide belt of trees all around your farm, in a few years the 'hoppers will clean your place.

"Now, if you must plant trees, why not plant a nice orchard? If that Forest Service man really wanted to improve your farm, he would set out fruit trees instead of those worthless locusts, elms, cottonwoods, and that no-account salt cedar. Why I wouldn't have one of them in a mile of my farm. They say that everywhere a leaf or branch from a salt cedar falls, the salt in it kills the land for 10 feet around."

For three months they pleaded and argued with Rube to no avail. Word spread into Vernon that Rube was going to let the Forest Service send those

lazy WPA men out and plant trees on his farm. Rube's banker, with whom he had done business for many years, took up the fight. One day to the banker's utter amazement, immediately after severely criticizing Rube for planning to plant a shelterbelt, Rube quietly but firmly withdrew his money and deposited it in another bank. Even the tenant who farms part of the Bitner farm agreed to help cultivate the trees only after Rube threatened to get another tenant.

Come March 1938, Rube's trees went in the ground to the root collar, and Rube's neighbors' spirits sank to their shoe laces. Soon tiny weeds began popping up through the flat broke land and to the utter despair of his neighbors Rube began cultivating his trees.

Again they pleaded with him. "Don't you know better than to cultivate those trees till June? You'll blow the country away. What if we are plowing our crop land? That's a different story. That's cotton land."

Nevertheless, Rube's cultivation continued, and soon the trees began to grow. August rolled around and Rube's trees were a sight for sore eyes, with many of the trees over ten feet high.

Says Rube:

"I was born in Texas in October 1888. I have lived for 50 years in Texas, with the exception of two years spent 'Over There'. I am a free-born American citizen. If I want to plant trees, it's nobody's d--n business, and God and the Forest Service willing, I'm going to plant more trees next year."

Says Rube's neighbors:

"Maybe Rube is right after all. He always was a good farmer."

Says the Forest Service:

"God willing and the State Office permitting, we are going to plant more belts for Rube and his neighbors next year."

- Thomas C. Croker, Texas

SOUTHERN FARMERS VISIT SOUTH DAKOTA SHELTERBELTS

On August 15, a special train pulled into Huron carrying 65 southern farmers on a good will tour of the Northwest. These men were from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama and were repaying a visit made to the Southland by Northwestern farmers last year.

After an address of welcome from Governor Jensen, a tour was made of the farming areas between Huron and Mitchell. A number of shelterbelts were viewed en route to Mitchell, and after having lunch and a reception at the Corn Palace, the visitors were taken out to the famous Ed Casey shelterbelt. The history of the Casey shelterbelt was briefly outlined for them. Ed Casey then told the group how much he thought of his trees and of the benefits that his farm is already deriving from them.

After returning to Huron, the farmers assembled at the State Fair grounds where a genuine Dutch lunch was served to them. Two of our boys assisted in dispensing the eats and drinks and did a right good job of it. Several Southerners were heard to remark that the Yankee brand of hospitality matched that for which the South is so famous.

- E. K. Ferröll, S.Dak.

OLSON SETS THE PACE; WHO WILL FOLLOW?

On the occasion of a fairly recent visit of Mr. Olson to this Unit there was established a trust fund in accordance with the following announcement:

"Notice is hereby given that a trust fund called the Olson Memorial Fund has been set up in commemoration of the wisdom of Olson in selecting the winning number of an office jack pot.

"This fund may be used for treats to the office force whenever the temperature reaches 96° F. or better as long as any funds remain.

"Furthermore, to avoid any crookedness, and no names are being mentioned, it is necessary that at least a quorum of three be present before the temperature is determined or the treats purchased in order to avoid having all of the employees but one or two sent to the field and thereby leaving any gluttons to use up the entire amount.

"Mr. Young has been designated Administrator of this trust fund."

Mr. Young reports that the fund is now exhausted and a total of 61 treats was made during the administration. The smallest number participating at any one time was seven and the maximum number was 17. All provisions of the trust agreement have been complied with in every respect and the Trustee's Account will be presented Mr. Olson on his next trip to Oklahoma. In the meantime, all participants wish to express their appreciation of the benefits made possible by this memorial, and all concede publicly the profound wisdom evidenced in the selection of that winning number.

Oklahoma welcomes at all times all visitors from the Regional Office and other States, but has a particularly warm reception for those altruistic and philanthropic individuals of the Olson type. Of course, no reference is made to anyone in particular, but those individuals who seem to possess an uncanny ability in their poker-playing proclivities might well take an object lesson from the memorial established by Mr. Olson in disposing of at least a part of their winnings.

- A. N. Butler, Okla.

OUR REPUTATION MUST BE UPHELD!

The U. S. Forest Service plants better trees outdoors than it does inside. . . . Newly planted saplings in a window box of the shelterbelt office in the Lewis Mart are dying. . . . Office workers explain they were transplanted the wrong time of year. . . . Another attempt will be made this fall to provide shade for the working stenos.

- Hutchinson (Kans.) News of 8/8/38.

Stenos in the U. S. Forest Service office may work in the shade of a shelterbelt after all. . . . Chagrined because The News reported trees in an office window box died, the staff interred new saplings, Karl Ziegler, Junior Forester in charge, reports. . . . In the ground a week, all but one are flourishing. . . . Varieties are western yellow pine, American elm, honeysuckle, Chinese elm, locust, Russian olive, hackberry and apricot.

- Hutchinson (Kans.) News of 8/19/38.

OUR NEW SIGNS

Notice has been received from Region 9 that the last of the signs of our large requisition, 858 of them for our Project, are being packed for shipment. In a short time visitors to our field shelterbelts and nurseries will be informed by new shiny white and green signs, uniform throughout the Project, that they are viewing Forest Service plantations and nursery stock.

Incidentally, word has been received from Region 9 that in the opinion of the unofficial gallery there, who have seen the signs at the warehouse, the farm shelterbelt signs were considered most attractive. They are painted on a 40-inch plywood shield with the wording: "U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service" across the top. There is a seven-inch pine tree on either side. Across the middle of the shield in Sam Brown fashion there is a green band on which is painted "Farm Shelterbelt." Two additional words and the year tell a complete story like this: "Cooperative Farm Shelterbelt Planted 1935". There were 284 of these signs manufactured for us.

Second to these in number are species markers which are being supplied for our leased nurseries. The number of species markers ordered for some States shows that more than 50 species of trees, chiefly deciduous, are grown in their nurseries.

- Wm. B. Ihlanfeldt, R.O.

MOTION PICTURES EXCITE COMMENT

Mr. Luey, Motion Picture Photographer from the Washington Office, spent some time in Oklahoma during the past month taking movie shots of various shelterbelt plantations and areas in the shelterbelt zone.

While we are talking about motion pictures, we were all pleased to receive the reel of films that was taken in Oklahoma last fall by Fred Dunham of Region 5. These pictures were taken in color and were received from the Regional Office at the time we were holding a conference at which all of our field personnel was present. During a recess these pictures were shown to personnel of the Unit, including the office force and the office personnel of the State Forester's organization. Ed Perry, John R. Nelson, Sam Byars, and others really showed up well in these screen tests, and from the action shown in the picture we would be willing to put all our chips on Carl Regnier against the rest of the field in a wood-chopping contest - Boy, he sure did make the chips fly! Incidentally, we wonder why Fred didn't get a shot of Ronald Woolery falling off the tractor?

- A. N. Butler, Okla.

FARMER SAYS SHELTERBELTS PAYING PROPOSITION

Mr. W. J. Steinbach of New Rockford, North Dakota recently told me that shelterbelts are a paying proposition to any farmer. He says that his yield of crop for 40 rods on either side of his planting was from five to seven bushels more per acre last year. This proves that shelterbelts will pay for the fence around them in a very short time. Mr. Steinbach has two and one-half miles of 1935 and 1936 plantings. With an increased yield of five bushels per acre for each 40 rods adjacent to these plantings, his gain would amount to 2,000 bushels. This should be good sales talk when negotiating.

- Corlie E. Hall, N.Dak.

NEBRASKA UNIT LIKES GRAND ISLAND

The Nebraska Office of the PSFP is rapidly becoming acclimated in its new location at Grand Island. The move was made during the week of August 15; State Director Emerson and Assistant Forester Matthew making the transfer on the 15th, the rest of the force and the office furniture following on the 17th and 18th. The personnel and the furniture arrived in good shape, and after a few changes and rearranging we are quite comfortably located. Instead of one large office room as in the Sharp Building, we now have a string of seven. Office is on the second floor of the Cleary Building, at 303¹/₂ West Third Street, and the phone is 588. Come up and see us some time.

Some of the Grand Island attractions investigated thus far include: Several nice parks; three good movie houses; a dozen nite clubs, numerous beer parlors (which stay open Sunday); and two good golf courses. In connection with the last-named attraction, it might be mentioned that John Emerson has finally broken down and started playing golf. His only complaint so far is the numerous water hazards which have an uncanny attraction for his ball.

- R. W. Smith, Nebr.

SOME SHOOTING

District Officer Roy B. Morgan of Shamrock, Texas reports that during the period between June 7 and July 1, 1938, he and his assistants killed the following number of rabbits with .22 hollow point long rifle cartridges:

<u>Man</u>	<u>Rabbits Killed</u>	<u>Shots Fired</u>
Morgan	14	27
Hiett	74	150
Ricketts	100	175
Griggs	50	125
Totals - -	238	477

This represents approximately one cent per rabbit for ammunition used.

SCOTT SAYS GOOD-BYE

It is with keen regret that I wind up my work preparatory to leaving for my new assignment. The wholehearted cooperation and good fellowship which you have extended and the interesting work of the Project have made my assignment here a distinctly enjoyable one.

The Prairie States Forestry Project is performing a fine service and undoubtedly has a bright future in store.

The latchstring will be out for any of you who are in Ogden at any time.

- M. R. Scott, R.O.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Scott will leave the Prairie States Forestry Project soon to become Fiscal Agent for Region 4 with headquarters at Ogden, Utah.)